

November 8, 2001

*Via Electronic Filing*

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *Ex Parte* Presentation  
WTB Docket No. 01-108

Dear Ms. Salas:

Pursuant to the Commission's rules, this letter summarizes an *ex parte* presentation made yesterday, November 7, 2001, by representatives of ATX Technologies, Inc., Gary Wallace, Vice President for External Affairs, and myself to David Furth, Senior Legal Advisor and Jay Jackson, Senior Engineer, of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

During the presentation we discussed the vehicle safety and emergency features of telematics technologies in automobiles and how this technology has been premised on the AMPS environment. We reiterated our position that the digital environment is currently unable to replicate this capability. We discussed ATX's intention to submit to the Commission a digital roadmap outlining the parameters of what must evolve in the digital environment to provide parallel levels of safety and emergency response features and that any reasoned transition is dependent on these capabilities being available. An outline of this effort was presented, and is attached.

Respectfully,

John E. Logan

Copy provided to:

## TELEMATICS DIGITAL ROADMAP

I. The public interest in promoting and preserving telematics deployment is substantial:

- A. Automatic Crash Notification (ACN) ability to reduce deaths and serious injuries resulting from highway collisions
- B. Provides motorists with a much safer driving environment
- C. Monitors in real-time the operating performance of vehicles and to alert/troubleshoot operating faults.
- D. Provides motorists with much more accurate and rapid response in other emergencies.
- E. Provides national highway and traffic managers with a potential, real-time traffic flow management tool.

II. ATX thoroughly supports wireless carriers' migration to more efficient digital technologies, yet the digital environment for telematics technologies is challenged because

- A. Digital is pervasively voice oriented
- B. Digital limited to primarily metropolitan population centers

III. ATX proposes a "digital road map" outlining how the digital environment can evolve to replicate the analog environment. ATX urges the Commission to pursue a leadership role toward developing a focused transition from analog to digital so that:

- A. Voice and call associated data are transmitted over the same channel
- B. Reliable Caller ID (Landline and Wireless) is available
- C. Ubiquitous coverage pervades (SMS and high speed data)
- D. Adequate Capacity is present (Significant volume for 110% of peak volume)
- E. Ability to gracefully end the Emergency call by sending affirmative data to the Emergency Wireless transceiver that the session has ended. Presently, the Emergency AMPS transceiver can switch from voice to data to communicate this vital information.